



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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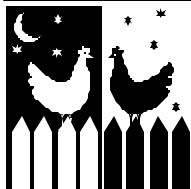
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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries were unchanged in the West and Midwest; two cents lower in the Northeast. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak in the Northeast, steady to about steady elsewhere. Demand ranged light to fairly good, best for fast food promotions and feature activity. Supplies of smaller size birds were more than sufficient, heavier sizes in the Northeast and West were fully adequate to ample and competitively priced to stimulate interest. In the parts structure, breast items were at least adequate to fully adequate and slow in clearing. Wings were in good balance and clearing. Leg items were about adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range of light to heavy, but mostly desirable.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 03/19-03/24/01 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)			COMPOSITE	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	50.00-54.00	50.00-64.50	52.92	24
Los Angeles	67.00			
New York	53.00-55.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	61.50-63.00	51.00-65.00	62.20	79

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 62.00 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
592	58.09-63.75	61.87

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice-packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	144.50	3,930
BREASTS - WHOLE	74.00	1,085
THIGH MEAT - B/S	92.50	740
LEG QUARTERS	24.00	7,061
WINGS	96.50	2,623

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

WESTERN REGION Preliminary majority prices were unchanged. Trading for next week's deliveries were at unchanged prices on regular commitments, however new negotiations were unchanged to higher on small sizes and mixed on heavy weights. Offerings generally adequate with heavy weights still in the longest position. Whole body product in the 2.5 to 2.75 pound range continued to be held with some confidence. Retailer demand was best where featured otherwise only fair. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. Trade sentiment was fully steady on leg quarters, barely steady on breasts and generally steady on balance of parts. Ads noted: Southern California - whole body 59-79, whole cut-up 79-99, whole seasoned 99, leg quarters 10# bag 490, drumsticks 69-119 5# bag 345, thighs 69-119, wings 69-119, whole legs 99, split breasts 97-159, boneless breasts 167-399 IQF 4# bag 999, boneless thigh meat 168, boneless leg meat 118; Northern California - whole body 59-99 & buy get one free, whole cut-up 129, whole legs 69, boneless breasts 299-399, drumsticks 69-129, thighs 69-129, split breasts 100-149, IQF 4# bag party wings 499, leg quarters 10# bag 490, cornish hens 199; Denver - whole cut-up 99, boneless breasts 199-349, breasts tenders 299, boneless thigh meat 199, IQF 4# bag - wings 396 & drumsticks 299; Arizona - whole body 79-129 & buy one get one free, boneless breasts 197-449, split breasts 99, leg quarters 129 buy one get one free.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS The preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into Chicago were unchanged from Monday's final. Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was about steady. Additional product offerings were available for the mostly disinterested buyer. Movement into retail and food service channels was as expected with little interest outside of regular business. Fast food promotions and limited retail features received best call. Floor stocks were well cleared to fully adequate with sizes mostly desirable. Supplies of wings were limited; breast items fully adequate and dark meat items balanced. Demand was limited on all items except for wings, which showed moderate movement. The market tone was fully steady on wings and dark meat items, steady on the balance of items.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers increased slightly, but was mostly of a light and spotty nature entering the weekend. Offerings of the 3 pound and heavier birds were ample and discounted, and the balance of sizes continued more than sufficient. Movement into retail and distributive channels was slow. The market tone ranged no better than steady to weak. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were fully adequate, and boneless-skinless breasts were available. Wings were in good balance with immediate needs, and dark meat cuts were at least sufficient.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was about steady. Demand was light to fair, and generally unaggressive. Supplies were at least adequate for current trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were fully adequate and available. Leg items, especially leg quarters were in close balance and clearing. Wings were about adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased slightly entering the weekend but remained generally disappointing. Offerings were fully adequate to ample, instances tight on the 2.5 pound size. 3.0 pound and larger sizes were readily available and aggressively discounted in some instances in an effort to stimulate buying interest. Live supplies were about moderate; weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate to light. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent lower at 54 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment was weak. In the parts complex, all items were at least adequate. *BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	47-68
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	57.84
NO. OF BOXES	11,932
CUMULATIVE	03/12/01-03/16/01 59.10
	03/13/00-03/17/00 52.25
NO. OF BOXES	03/12/01-03/16/01 59,938
	03/13/00-03/17/00 42,394

*7 of 8 plants reporting.

MAR 15

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAR 16

POUNDS					POUNDS					WEEKLY	
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG	
BREAST - B/S	937	125.00-210.00	140-149	146.63	820	120.00-210.00	140-150	144.61	3,965	154.55	
TENDERLOINS	182	140.00-220.00	145-150	156.04	65	145.00-150.00	-	148.08	444	159.10	
BREAST - LINE RUN	124	75.00-79.00	75-77	76.36	124	75.00-79.00	-	76.29	801	71.71	
FRONT HALVES	145	70.00-84.00	-	76.88	210	74.00-85.00	-	77.57	600	77.23	
LEGS	148	30.00-40.00	31-34	32.77	108	30.00-40.00	31-33	31.85	620	31.92	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	1,196	18.00-21.50	18-19	18.74	316	19.00-21.00	19-20	19.86	4,695	20.15	
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,937	21.00-25.00	22-23	22.65	1,977	21.00-26.00	22-23.5	22.80	7,268	22.55	
WINGS (WHOLE)	276	96.00-99.00	-	96.15	302	92.00-96.00	94-96	95.26	1,148	95.29	
WINGS (CUT)	568	87.00-119.00	107-109	108.15	638	105.00-119.00	106-108	109.96	2,514	108.99	
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				TFEWR		
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				TFEWR		
B/S THIGHS	107	88.00-95.00	-	91.51	67	92.00-95.00	-	93.30	405	90.86	
*****					*****					*****	
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS						
TRADING FOR MAR 15, 2001 F.O.B. DOCK.					TRADING FOR MAR 16, 2001 F.O.B. DOCK.					5-DAY	
RANGE					RANGE					AVERAGE	
44.00 - 52.75					46.50 - 53.00					48.72	
										48.44	

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity increased slightly entering the weekend, but was generally unaggressive as dealers continued to find any excess of product beyond normal commitments difficult to move. Offerings of boneless-skinless breasts were usually available, and bone-in breasts remained fully adequate. Wings were well balanced with immediate needs, and dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Movement through retail and distributive channels was slow. The market tone was fully steady on wings, barley steady on bone-in breasts, no better than steady on the balance.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO 1ST RCVRS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB

MAR 16

CURRENT NEG				CURRENT NEG				WEEKLY	
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	135	136.66	655,560	BREAST - B/S	135	137.45	714,760	136.20	3,192,760
TENDERLOINS	130-135	136.81	140,407	TENDERLOINS	130-135	136.49	104,640	136.81	568,982
BREAST - WITH RIBS	66-67	75.09	242,880	BREAST - WITH RIBS	66-67	73.80	235,080	75.59	1,198,640
BREAST - LINE RUN	66	68.50	144,040	BREAST - LINE RUN	66	68.00	230,400	69.51	948,040
LEGS	33-34	36.74	213,160	LEGS	33-34	36.10	282,320	36.46	1,291,870
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	21-22	22.70	407,676	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	21-22	23.06	445,063	22.96	2,186,434
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	36.88	141,620	DRUMSTICKS	31-32	36.65	148,590	36.69	731,460
THIGHS	29-30	34.13	142,460	THIGHS	29-30	34.21	167,240	34.73	700,640
B/S THIGHS	87-88	90.41	55,480	B/S THIGHS	87-88	91.88	48,960	91.25	261,890
WINGS (WHOLE)	90-91	99.25	312,060	WINGS (WHOLE)	90-91	99.13	298,060	99.00	1,621,593
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.19	83,120	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.06	86,680	12.05	395,670
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.58	68,895	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.46	85,920	34.53	351,230
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.99	92,970	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.84	116,560	59.85	472,630

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

		ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG		AVG	
		03/16	03/15	03/14	03/13	WTS	03/14	03/13	03/09
ALA	3,750	3,653	3,775	3,792	5.06	5.11	3,755	5.03	
ARK	5,407	5,380	4,914	5,205	4.79	4.91	4,827	4.93	
DELMARVA	2,071	2,275	2,322	2,239	4.92	5.02	2,408	4.90	
KY-LA-TN	1,926	1,903	1,863	1,958	4.40	4.42	1,804	4.46	
MISS	2,598	2,763	2,530	2,678	5.26	5.04	2,793	4.88	
NC	2,490	2,506	2,492	2,486	5.75	5.86	2,891	5.77	
TEXAS	2,315	2,333	2,269	2,287	4.92	4.92	2,297	4.83	
TOTAL	20,557	20,813	20,165	20,645	5.01	5.04	20,775	4.99	
MON-FRI103,139(A)							102,305(A)		

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 16-Mar 01 and 17-Mar-01 is estimated to be 30,756,000 down 1.34 percent from a week ago and up 6.1 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 28,978,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 17-Mar-01 is estimated to be 149,405,000 head down 1.8 percent from a week ago, and up 0.7 percent from a year ago (Last week 152,138,000 Last year 148,354,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	82-85
ROASTERS 4# & UP	71-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	81
DUCKS	139
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 89-94
	DRY PACK 102
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 104-117
	DRY PACK 123
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 91-117
	DRY PACK 123
DUCKS	152-170

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Mar 03, 2001 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning
Food service
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up
-----THOUSANDS-----

	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
Head	24,475	27,752	36,042
Avg Weight	3.81	4.75	6.05
% of total /1	28%	31%	41%

COMPARISONS

	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
Last week	34,249	24,947	42,405
Avg Weight	3.80	4.72	6.07
% of total /1	34%	25%	42%
Same week, yr ago /2	36,065	36,754	34,944
Avg Weight	3.84	4.86	6.21
% of total /1	33%	34%	32%
To date/2001	297,172	233,895	393,638
To date/2000	306,592	267,674	362,213

1/ May not total to 100% due to rounding.

2/ Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 10-Mar-2001 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
HEAD	152,138 (A)	2,010	1,270	3,280	516
AVG WT	5.18	3.54	7.81	5.19	6.62
LAST WEEK	147,804	1,910	1,261	3,171	515
SAME WK YR AGO	155,100	2,109	1,513	3,622	411
AVG WT	4.89	3.38	7.77	5.22	7.42
TO-DATE/2001	1,491,334	18,487	12,652	31,139	4,903
TO-DATE/2000	1,538,534	20,364	13,524	33,888	4,571

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 151.3 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154 million head or 2.7 million head more than or 102 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: MAR 13, 2001

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.70 - .84	Silkie	3.00 - 4.00ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.80 - 1.12	Pigeons	2.75 - 3.20ea.
Red Fowl 4-4.5 LBS	.40 - .62	White Pigeons	2.75 - 3.00ea.
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.60 - .94	Rabbits	
Crossbred Fowl		4-6 LBS	1.10 - 1.72
5-9 LBS	.50 - .92	Rabbits	
Crossbred Roosters		7-11 LBS	1.10 - 1.44
4-6 LBS	.70 - 1.04	Bunnies	3.00 - 12.00ea.
Crossbred Roosters		Guinea Pigs	1.00 - 4.50ea.
7-11 LBS	.50 - .94	Goats	60.00 - 115.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.85 - 2.15	Kid Goats	12.00 - 30.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.50 - 6.50ea.	Doves	4.00 - 5.50ea.
Banty Hens	2.50 - 4.50ea.	Chukars	3.10 - 3.60ea.
Leghorn Hens	.20 - .34	Pullets 4-6 LBS	.60 - .84
Leghorn Roosters	.30 - .44		

Total Coops Sold 748

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 12-MAR-2001

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND MOSTLY	137	143

	122-126	123-127
MIDWEST MOSTLY	122-124	123-125

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	65-66
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-83 73-77

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was light to mostly moderate. Sizes were desirable to instances light and caused some slaughter schedules to be reduced this week in an attempt to get larger birds. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$5.00-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.38, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$1.50-.75, livers at \$.50-1.50, and feet at \$.90-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 12-MAR-2001

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS MOSTLY	121-123	124

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
FEBRUARY 3	151.7	152.7	99	4.89
10	154.4	149.5	103	5.12
17	152.4	148.8	102	4.97
24	149.5	151.6	99	4.99
MARCH 3	149.6	151.3	99	5.01
10	154.0	151.3	102	5.18
YEAR TO DATE	1509.5	1496.4	101	
MARCH 17		152.7		
24		152.3		

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

W/E	03/17/01	03/10/01	% CHG	03/18/00	% CHG
Broilers	149,405	152,138*	-02	148,354*	+01
Cattle	658	642	+02	669	-02
Hogs	1,843	1,831	+01	1,911	-04

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Majority prices were unchanged on light canners but irregular on heavy canners when compared to a week earlier. Trading was fair and product was clearing easily. Demand was in a full range of light to good. Undertone was about steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
21-26.5 MAJORITY 21-23.5	35.5-37 MAJORITY

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
25-28 MAJORITY 25	36-39 MAJORITY 37-38

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Market conditions and prices were unchanged. Demand was moderate for offerings that were sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules were about normal. Interest for finished product was clearing available supplies. The undertone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was light to moderate for inbalance offerings of light hens for slaughter. Sales of dressed product were fair. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was only steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices unchanged. Demand was mostly light to moderate with a few heavy hen processors filling shorted needs with light hens at this call. Offerings continue fully adequate to instances ample for current schedules. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants worked lighter schedules overall. Offerings spotty through Easter.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0-0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0-0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0 (2)	
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate for about adequate to short offerings. Processing schedules were in a range of less than normal to normal. Interest for canners was clearing available offerings. The undertone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was moderate for at least adequate offerings of heavy hens. Finished sales were only fair. Current schedules were adequate for needs. Trade sentiment was no better than steady.

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